



**BOSS
BABE**

Want to Run Your Own Practice? Take Criminal Defense Appointments

Serve the Community and Run Your Own Business

What is a Criminal Defense Appointment?

"If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed to you." When you accept criminal defense appointment, that attorney is you! You represent accused individuals who cannot afford their own attorney.

How to Receive Criminal Defense Appointments?

- (1) Be a Licensed Attorney
- (2) Meet the County's Minimum Attorney Qualifications
- (3) Apply to Join an Appointment List
- (4) Be Approved by the Judges or Managed Assigned Counsel Office to Join a List
- (5) Start Receiving Appointed Cases



Check the County's Minimum Attorney Qualifications

To take appointed cases, attorneys must meet the county's eligibility requirements to join an appointment list.[1] Requirements vary by county and type of case, but they often require an attorney:

- Be in good standing with the State Bar of Texas
- Have some legal experience/equivalencies, such as criminal clinic experience, legal training, or experience handling criminal cases as first or second chair, etc.
- Comply with annual Continuing Legal Education requirements and any additional requirements established by the county.

To find a county's Minimum Attorney Qualifications, look up their County Indigent Defense Plan on TIDC's website:

<https://tidc.tamu.edu/Public.Net/Reports/IDPlanNarrative.aspx>



Get Started on Your Experience & Connections in Law School:



Work in a Criminal Law Clinic



Take an Advanced Advocacy Class



Join Mock Trial or Moot Court Team



Watch Court Proceedings



Work or Volunteer at a Firm Handling Appointed Cases



Connect with Local Attorneys through local bar associations & events

Take advantage of free/discounted student memberships in legal organizations to access research, up-to-date practice tips and trends, networking opportunities, job banks, and more.